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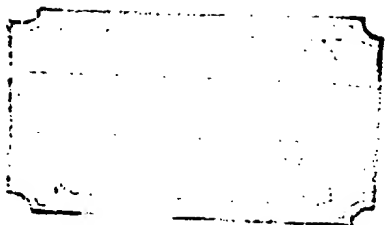
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PATENT



SPECIFICATION

Application Date, Nov. 8, 1917. No. 16,367/17.

Complete Accepted, May 16, 1918.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in Golf Practising Devices.

I, THOMAS JEFFARES PORTE, Merchant, of 783, Jessie Avenue, City of Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, Canada, do hereby declare the nature of this invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

- 5 The invention relates to improvements in golf practising devices and the principal object of the invention is to provide a practising device whereby one, with a captive ball, can practise the various golf club strokes and whilst so practising can determine the strength of the stroke and by so doing be enabled to practise the various shots the same as would be required on the links.
- 10 A further object of the invention is to construct the appliance so that it can be readily set up in the yard or in a room and also one which can be manufactured and sold at small cost and which when not required for use can be readily stored.
- A further object of the invention is to construct a practicing device which
- 15 can be readily regulated to accommodate the strokes to be made.
- A further object is to construct the appliance such that the arresting element utilized to stop the captive projectile will absorb considerable of the impact and such that the projectile can strike the arresting element over an extended area thereby adding materially to the durability of the structure.
- 20 With the above objects in view the invention consists essentially in the arrangement and construction of parts hereinafter more particularly described and later pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawing in which:—
- Fig. 1 represents a perspective view of the complete appliance as set up
- 25 for use.
- Fig. 2 represents an enlarged detailed vertical sectional view through the guide rods and showing other adjoining parts in front elevation.
- Fig. 3 represents a rear perspective view of the back plate.
- Fig. 4 represents an enlarged detailed perspective view of the captive
- 30 projectile.
- Fig. 5 represents a plan view of a portion of the ball runway.
- Fig. 6 represents a side view of a fragmentary portion of the ball runway.
- In the drawing like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.
- 35 1 represents a substantially rectangular solid base piece or platform which is provided more or less centrally with an upright standard or post 2 fitted at the top with a horizontally disposed stationary head plate 3 which is provided

[Price 6d.]

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forwardly with an upstanding end piece or bracket 4 for a purpose later disclosed.

Behind the bracket 4 and to the head plate I secure a second upstanding bracket 5 and the brackets carry at their outer edges horizontally aligned pairs of horizontally disposed side rollers 6, 7, 8 and 9 which act as guides for four horizontally disposed guide rods 10, 11, 12 and 13 which have their forward ends suitably secured to an arresting element or pad 14 and their rear ends secured permanently to a back plate 15.

From the above disclosure it will be obvious that by virtue of the rollers and brackets the rods and consequently the arresting element is constrained to a forward and backward movement in a horizontal direction and that the back plate shifts simultaneously with the arresting element.

The arresting element is preferably circular in form and is fitted with a central opening 16 and is constructed from a number of thicknesses of material such as a backing plate 17 of metal, an adjoining absorbent layer 18 of material such as rubber and two front facing strips 19 and 20 of material such as leather.

The back plate 15 is provided with a pair of rearwardly extending hangers 21 and 22 which carry a cross rod 23, to the central portion of which I secure the rear end of a coiled spring 24 which passes forwardly through an opening 25 reserved centrally in the back plate and has the forward end thereof permanently attached in any suitable manner to the rear side of the bracket 4. Obviously this spring will normally tend to hold the arresting element ahead or in its forward position and will resist rearward shifting of the arresting element.

Forward and rear pairs of vertically disposed side rollers 26 and 27 are supplied to offset any tendency for lateral shifting of the guide rods. These latter rollers are suitably mounted on upstanding rods fastening to the sides of the head-plate 3.

More or less centrally between the front and rear brackets 4 and 5 I locate a more or less U-shaped cross bar 28 which is fastened to the head plate and has the upstanding ends 29 and 30 thereof forming supports for a cross rod 31. This cross rod supports pivotally an open ended substantially rectangular striking frame 32 which comprises a top piece 33 and side extensions or legs 34 and 35, the legs appearing on opposite sides of the post 2 and terminating more or less adjacent the platform.

The lower ends of the legs are provided with outstanding right and left strikers 36 and 37 for a purpose later disclosed.

Between the upper ends of the legs and the cross rod 23 I locate a pair of swinging links 38 and 39 which are pivotally secured to the legs and to the rod. Obviously owing to the links, any backward or forward movement of the back plate as occasioned by the movement of the striking element will effect a forward or back swinging of the upper ends of the legs and the consequent backward and forward movement of the strikers 36 and 37.

The parts are designed so that in the normal or forward position of the striking element the legs are in a vertical position with the result that upon the striking element being shifted backwardly the strikers 36 and 37 will kick forwardly.

At some distance in advance of a platform and directly aligned with the longitudinal axis thereof I locate a pad 40 which is anchored to the ground in any suitable manner such as by means of a spike 41.

Between the spike and the anchor post 4 I stretch a wire, cable or guide 42 which extends through the slot 16 and forms a guide for a projectile captive to the wire and in the nature of a ball 43 fastened to the wire by means of a link 44 and staple 45 passing through the ball. The link 44 is of such a length that the ball will strike the pad in its flight on the wire and will not go through the opening 16.

An anchor rod 46 extends between the rear side of the post and the ground



and is fitted with a turn buckle 47 so that the whole appliance can be effectively tightened up when set up and with the wire 42 taut.

48 represents a ball runway formed from a number of similar sections jointed together by hinges 49.

- 5 The runway is graduated in yards from one end to the other, such being indicated at 50 and the sections of the runway are supplied at the sides and adjoining the hinged joints with staples 51 through which I pass the legs of supporting wickets 52. The legs of the wickets make frictional contact with the staples and span the runway and friction is relied upon to maintain the
10 runway in any adjusted position in respect to the wickets, it being understood that the wickets are driven into the ground when the device is set up.

In setting the runway up it can be placed at the right or left hand side of the platform to accommodate a right or left hand player and in setting it up it is necessary that the lower end of the runway be placed on one or other of
15 the supporting bars 53 and 54 extending outwardly from the sides of the platform and in a location below the strikers.

When finally adjusted the lower end of the runway lies directly beneath one or other of the strikers 36 or 37 and a free indicating ball 55 lies on the runway and against the striker.

- 20 The above completes the description of the parts of the invention and although I have shown it as it would appear as set up on the ground, still it will be obvious that it can be used in a room for practice purposes, it being only necessary to suitably fasten to the floor those parts which are anchored by driving into the ground.

- 25 When one wishes to utilize the device for practicing he sets it up as shown, placing the runway to the right or left hand side, depending on whether he is a right hand or left hand player. The various shots, as taken with the various clubs can then be tried, the striker hitting the projectile, that is the ball 43, from its position on the pad 40. The ball after being struck travels on the
30 guide 42 until it strikes the arresting element 14 at which point the projectile is arrested and the impact causes, through the links, the upper part of the frame 32 to swing backwardly sharply with the result that one of the strikers shoots the ball 55 up the runway.

- By properly setting up the runway one can determine fairly accurately the
35 strength of his stroke as the distance which the ball 55 travels up the runway as shown by the graduations will be a record of the distance which the free ball would have travelled under actual playing conditions.

- To understand this better it is explained that a golf player knows from experience just how far he can drive a ball with a club, say a driver. Know-
40 ing this, if he is practising driving shots he sets the runway so that the ball 55 will travel up the runway an indicated distance equal to the distance which, under playing conditions, he would drive a free ball with a heavy stroke.

- After the device has been once set up to accommodate the individual he can judge all his following strokes by watching the travel of the ball 55 on the
45 runway.

I wish it here to be noticed that owing to the fact that the arresting element can move back when struck by the ball considerable of the impact of the ball with the arresting element will be absorbed which adds materially to the durability of the device.

- 50 Further as the ball may strike at any place on the pad the pad has considerable life which would not be the case if a fixed point were being struck at all times.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what
55 I claim is:—

1. In a golf practising device, a taut inclined guide wire extending between

two fixed points and a golf ball attached to and normally located at the lower end of the wire and designed to pass upwardly of the wire when struck.

2. In a golf practising device, a taut inclined guide wire extending between two fixed points, a mat at the lower end of the guide wire and a golf ball normally located at the mat end of the wire and slidably attached to the wire by means of a connecting link. 5

3. In a golf practising device according to Claim 1, an arresting element located at the upper end of the guide wire and adapted to be struck by the ball in flight on the wire.

4. In a golf practising device according to Claims 1 and 3, an appliance for registering the degree of impact of the ball with the arresting element. 10

5. The combination with a taut guide wire, of a golf ball and a link connecting the golf ball slidably to the wire.

6. The combination with a taut guide wire, of a link slidably mounted on the wire, a golf ball and a staple passing through the ball and connecting the link to the ball. 15

7. In a golf practising device, a movable arresting element adapted to be struck by the ball in flight and provided with strikers.

8. In a golf practising device, the combination with the elements of Claim 7, of a graduated adjustable inclined ball runway having the lower end located adjacent one of the strikers and an indicating ball mounted on the runway and normally bearing against the striker. 20

9. In a golf practising device in combination, a pedestal, an arresting element adapted to be struck by the ball and connected with the pedestal so that it can have a constrained movement when hit by the ball, strikers associated with the arresting element and adapted to be actuated in the movement of the element and an indicating ball normally engaging one of the strikers and operatively mounted on a ball runway. 25

10. A golf practising device constructed and operated substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings. 30

Dated this 8th day of November, 1917.

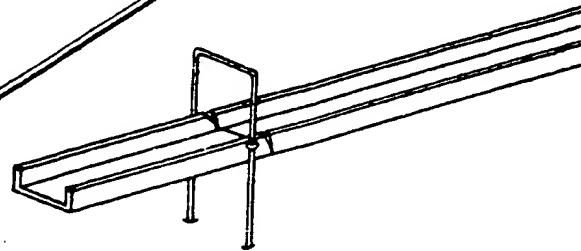
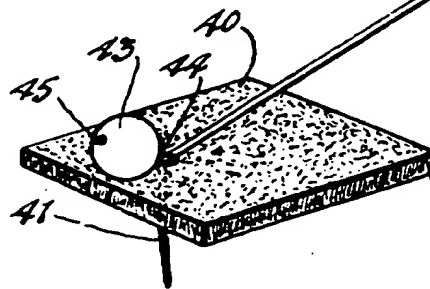
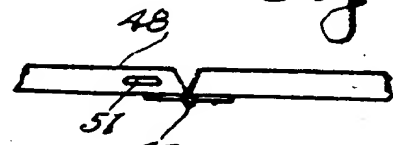
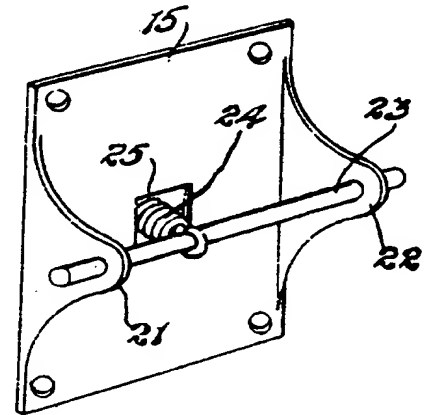
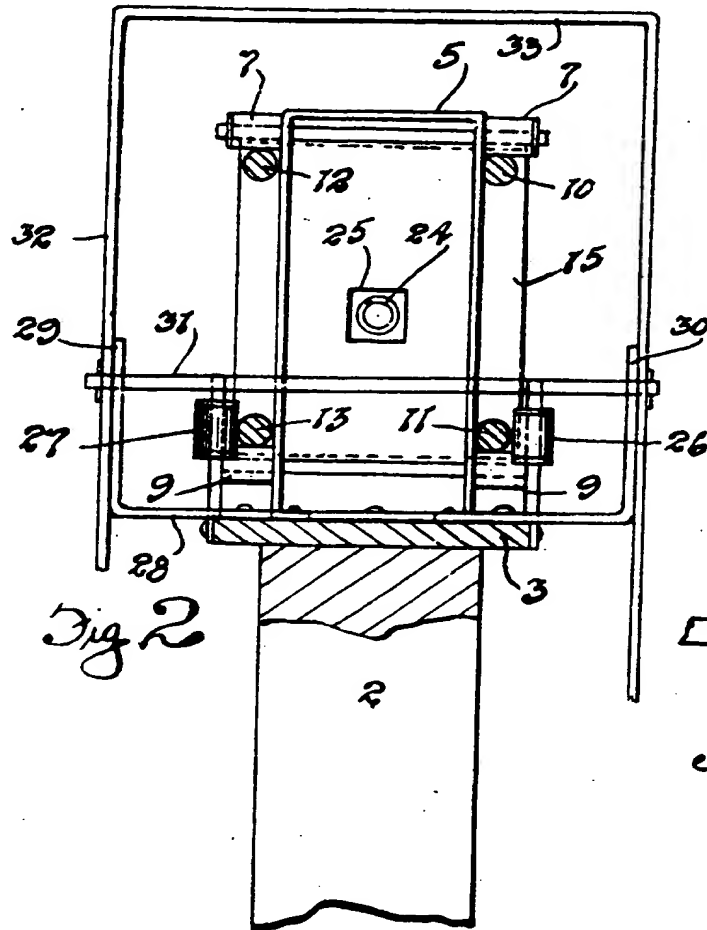
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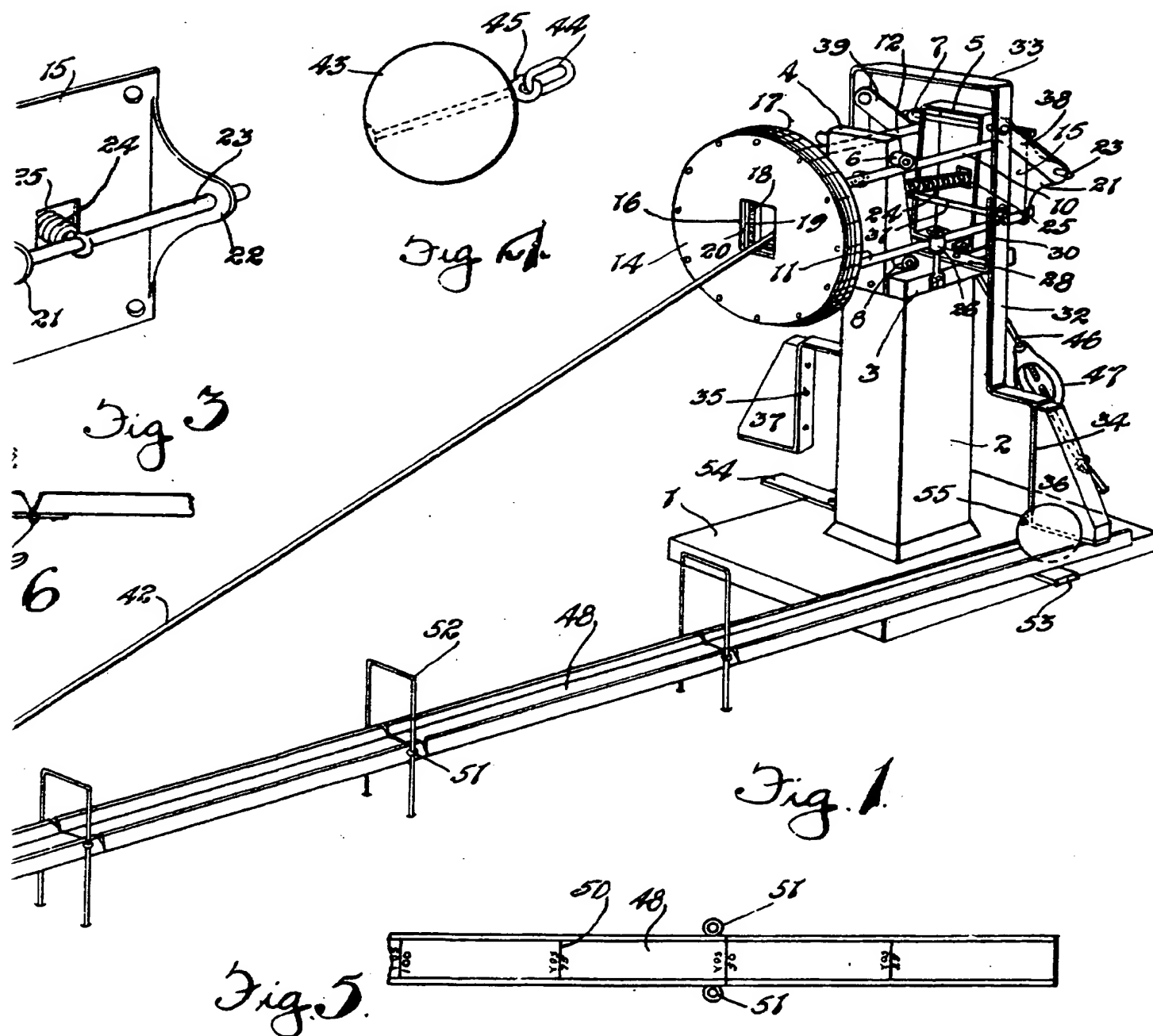
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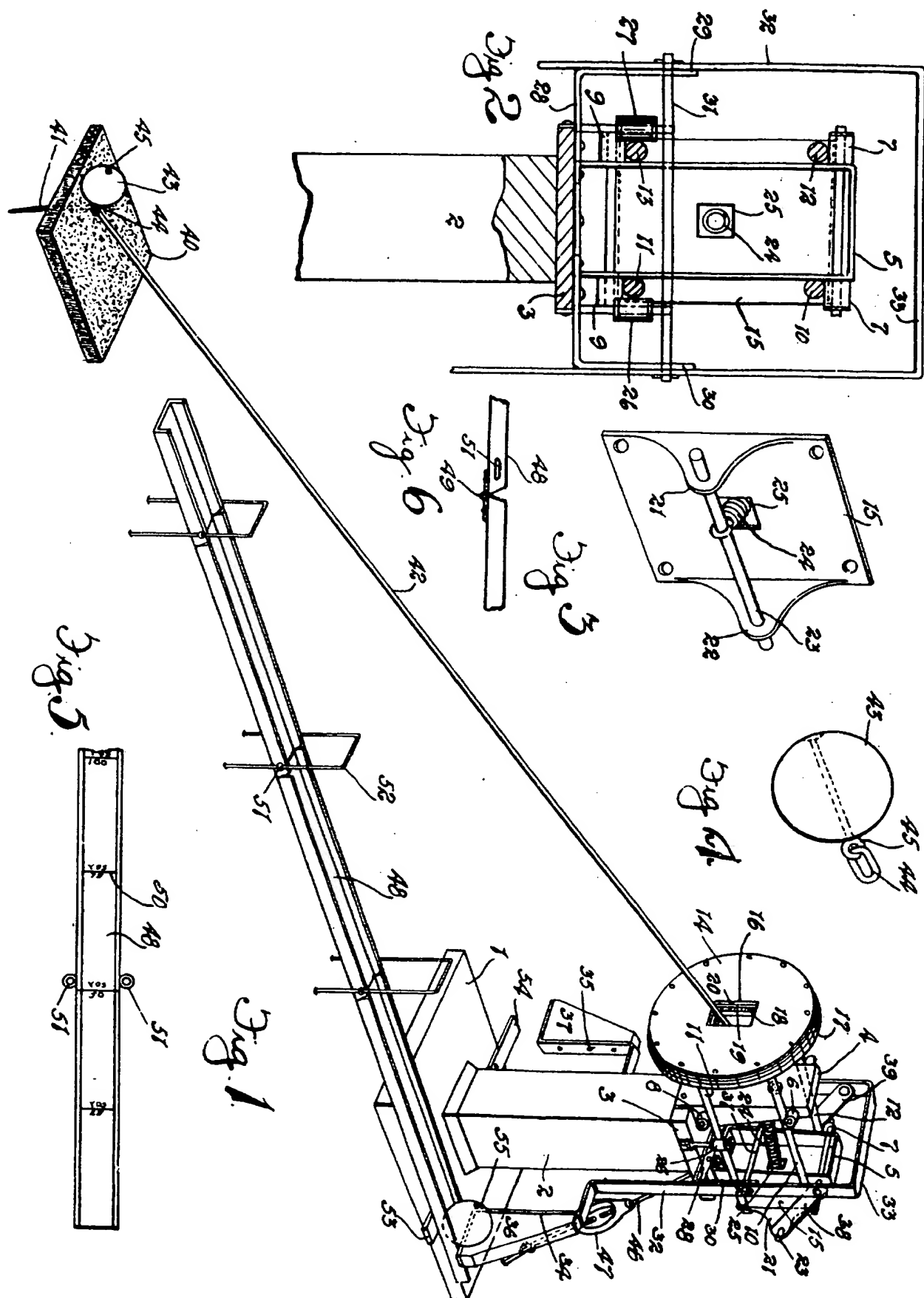


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